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Northern California Man Pleads No Contest in Fatal Stabbing

A Northern California man pleaded no contest today to fatally stabbing a man whose charred remains were discovered in a burned out car last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Carlo Giuliano Cresci, 24, of Richmond, entered his plea to one count of second-degree murder in case PA081843. He is scheduled to return for sentencing on April 11, 2016 in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch. He faces up to 27 years to life in prison.

Deputy District Attorney Sean Carney with the Target Crimes Division said Cresci stabbed Jose Alberto Martinez, 26, once in the neck on May 24, 2014, while the victim sat in a parked car in Sylmar.

Cresci poured gasoline on the car and set it on fire while Martinez was still alive, the prosecutor added.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated the case.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.